

THE MEDIUM

25TH ANNIVERSARY

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THE VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AT MISSISSAUGA

MARCH 8, 1999

QSS discusses fee increases

Athletics and Career Centre ask for more money

BY ROBERT PRICE

ECARA recently asked the Quality Services for Students committee (QSS) to approve a fee increase without a student referendum. QSS also discussed increasing students' non-academic incidental fees by five-dollars to subsidize another full-time employee for the Career Centre. QSS will vote on the increases later this month.

ECARA Vice President of Finance, Abid Chaudry, asked QSS "for a consensus" that a cost-of-living increase and "catch-up" funding is necessary.

"Our revenues are constant, but our costs increase," said Chaudry, adding that ECARA doesn't have a cost-of-living increase like other student societies. "We think it is time for a cost-of-living increase, plus a little catch-up." Chaudry explained that the catch-up fee would probably be the sum of the inflationary increases of the last five years. In past years, other student societies, like ECSU, SAC and *The Medium*, ran successful cost-of-living increase referendums. Late last month, ECARA voted 8-4 to bypass a student referendum and ask QSS for approval of the fee increase.

According to Chaudry, UTM's athletics facilities are underfunded compared to facilities at St. George and Scarborough. Chaudry explained that athletics' other sources of revenue, like renting the facilities to the community and housing a child care day camp during the summer, are nearly drained. The increase, he says, is desperately needed.

"There comes a time when there is a limit. We are in danger of exhausting our shocks," said Chaudry.

Chaudry explained that the decision to skip a referendum makes sense when compared to the new athletics governance model. Neither Les McCormick, dean of student affairs and chair of QSS, nor Chaudry said that they would explain the new Athletics model

before it is unveiled in the near future. Chaudry would only say that the model is "positive."

Career Centre increase

The Career Centre asked QSS to approve a five dollar increase in students' non-academic incidental fees. Joan McCurdy-Myers, recently appointed as manager of UTM's

Career Centre, said that the increased funding would provide the centre with a full-time Career Development Officer. The Career

Development Officer would be "an immediate service provider responsible for front line work." Currently, the manager is the only full-time staffer at the Career Centre. The increased revenue would also

"There comes a time when there is a limit. We are in danger of exhausting our shocks," said Chaudry.

QSS continued on page 2

Volunteers recognized



photo/Sijie Xu

Principal McNutt poses with UTM's "Outstanding Volunteers." From left to right, Patrick Osei-Owusu-Chemistry; Susan Guenther-Bloorview MacMillan Centre, AccessAbility, Community Living Mississauga and Volunteer Centre Grant Committee; Wayne Dabideen-Academic Skills, Long Doan-Toronto Hospital and Academic Skills; Michael Schmidt-*The Medium* and UTM's Sci-Fi and Gaming Club; Sarah Quashem-AccessAbility Resource Centre, Distress Centre Peel, Volunteer Coaching and Psychology Lab Assistant; Laurie Gamble-Ontario Special Olympics and Volunteer Centre Grant Committee; Niki Kiepek-Credit Valley Hospital, Community Living Mississauga, Volunteerism Task Force and Volunteer Centre Grant Committee; Laurie Kallis-Environmental Issues. Absent: Mehdi Ispahany-Academic Skills, Chemistry and Physics Society. See story, page 3.

No smoking by 2001

BY CHRISTOPHER A. ...

Mississauga plans to butt out by 2001 and most residents don't think it's a drag.

According to information compiled by private and public surveys, the City of Mississauga's move to outlaw smoking in public places is supported by area businesses and residents. Angus Reid and Environics surveys showed that an overwhelming majority of residents support the movement towards a smoke-free environment. Mississauga did its own survey in its Business Bulletin and found that 96 per cent of business owners who responded to the survey favoured the move.

The Region of Peel has set up a committee to look at the issues and gather more information regarding the proposed bylaw.

Elaine Buckstein, a member of the committee, sees the importance of consultation. "In addition to the web site survey and workplace sur-

vey, the smoke-free bylaw committee organized a series of focus group sessions, held individual meetings with representatives from the hospitality sector, and conducted various joint surveys throughout the Region of Peel."

The City is preparing a guide of restaurants around the Region of Peel which have already declared themselves smoke-free. As establishments become smoke free, they will be added to the guide in future revisions and immediately on the web site, where the guide is currently available (www.city.mississauga.on.ca).

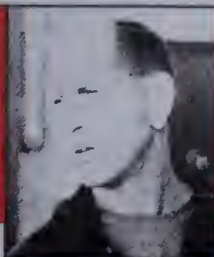
"The committee is currently working with other Greater Toronto

Mississauga continued on page 2

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Sewell gets serious
Arts & Entertainment
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Quote of the Week: "The atmosphere created by Octoberfest music, song and dance rivals and surpasses that of any holiday." - Dave McDougall makes a point, page 6

New Head Don

BY ROBERT PRICE

UTM Residence has appointed Christina Hosein as Head Don for 1999-2000. Hosein, who first became a don last September, says she is excited about the opportunities offered by the soon-to-be-complete Phase Six.

"I'm ecstatic. It comes at a time when lots of exciting things are happening—namely the Student Centre and Phase Six. These two new buildings will push the University in a new direction and give us a chance to do something new and exciting," said Hosein, who is entering her fifth year with a major in Psychology and Peace and Conflict studies and a minor in History.

UTM's Director of Residence, Mike Lavelle is happy with his decision to select Hosein. "We are fortunate to have Christina to fill the role of Head Don in the inaugural year of Phase Six," said Lavelle. "Christina is very qualified to carry out her duties as team leader for the fourteen Dons. She was a Don in freshmen residence this year and did an outstanding job with her row of thirty students," said Lavelle.

Hosein said that she believes her recent experiences at a university housing conference in Waterloo will help UTM Residence cope with the problems that Phase Six presents.

Phase Six is the first dormitory-style building in the twenty-seven year history of UTM Residence. Hosein said that connections she made with dons at universities with dormitories will help ease the changeover.

Hosein plans to put in place a programme infrastructure that will bring faculty and students closer together. "I'm going to try to implement a plan to get professors into the new buildings," said Hosein, commenting that she believes that students, particularly in their first year, will receive a better education if they are less intimidated by professors.



Christina Hosein

QSS to vote on fee increases

Continued from front

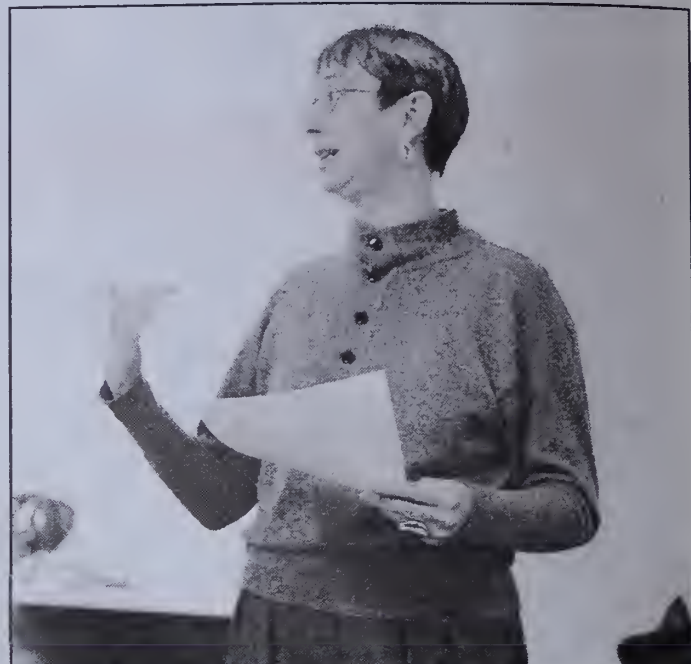
improve the Career Centre's equipment.

According to McCormick, student leaders who sat on QSS last year "thought the increase was important." He urged the group to "pick up [the] commitment made by other student leaders."

Karen Lam, a student who attended the meeting, expressed concern that, in light of recent increases in tuition, QSS should be cautious of any additional fee increases. Students are financially strapped already, said Lam, stating that some students have to work three part-time jobs to pay for school. "[The increase] is good for the centre, but it adds up. It might be a little hard," said Lam.

ECSU President Mike Giordano, although sympathetic with students' financial plight, responded that "the increase benefits students. If it didn't, we wouldn't approve of it."

Both increases will be voted with ten QSS protocol members, six of whom are students.



Joan McCurdy-Myers, the new manager of the Career Centre, asks QSS to increase student non-academic incidental fees by five dollars. She says the increase will provide students with another full-time staffer. photo/Mike Schmidt

Mississauga snuffs smokers

Continued from front

Area municipalities to review existing bylaws and to establish 'a level playing field' across the GTA," Buckstein said in reference to a GTA-wide bylaw preventing establishments across a city border from having an unfair competition over other establishments. The region-wide bylaw would move

smoking out of virtually all restaurants and bars in the GTA. The movement is comprised of the Region of Peel, the City of Brampton, the Town of Caledon, and the City of Mississauga.

It was established in 1998 to look at the possibility of such a bylaw, and is currently implementing the first phase so that it will be

fully in force by 2001.

The survey showed that an overwhelming 92.4 per cent of respondents are in favour of smoke-free areas such as recreation centres, concert halls, cinemas, meeting halls, and convention centres. The survey also said that 86.6 per cent of people favoured a smoke-free workplace. The same survey also said, however, that if workplaces were smoke-free, 3.5 per cent would go to work less than they do now.

The other option being considered to allow smoking in public places involves the installation of proper ventilation systems in enclosed rooms to remove 100 per cent of the carcinogenic particles from the environment.

Of those polled, 60.9 per cent of people were in favour of this idea as a preventative measure against second-hand smoke.

Currently, Vaughan prohibits smoking in restaurants without a separate enclosed room that ventilates its air separately from the rest of the restaurant.

The City will probably implement the bylaw through a phased-in approach; gradually, between the time the bylaw is implemented and sometime in 2001, the number of seats designated to smoking sections will begin to shrink. Eventually, all seats will be non-smoking seats.

Here at UTM, Both the North and South buildings are already designated as smoke-free.

When the Student Centre is finished for the next academic year, it too will be smoke-free, with the exception of a specific smoking room.

One irritated smoker said "it would never work. It's not a great idea. No one follows it in Toronto." However, this is not the general consensus. "Smoking is the ultimate form of industrial abuse of the average citizen" says Sean O'Leary, a UTM student.

In addition to the GTA, other areas also planning to become smoke-free include Brantford, in 2002; London, also in 2002; Waterloo, in 2000; Peterborough, in 2000; and Windsor will be smoke-free by May 31, 1999.



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The Medium

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Cabinet ministers inexperienced

BY RIMA MAAMARI

According to UTM political scientist Graham White, provincial cabinet ministers are ineffective politically because they lack experience as backbenchers or as opposition members. White's research is scheduled for publication in the fall issue of *Canadian Public Administration*.

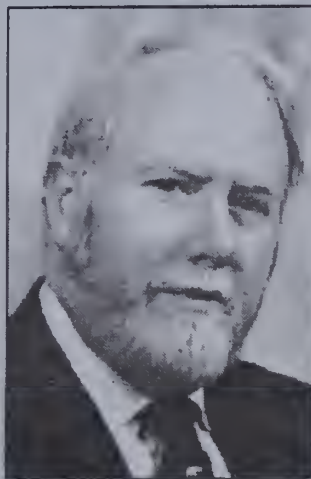
White discovered that, from the mid-forties to the mid-nineties, between one-quarter and one-third of 1300 cabinet members who held posts across the country entered their portfolios with no legislative experience. This is a cause for concern, especially since "cabinet has staggering powers," said White. "The idea that someone would come in literally off the street, be elected on day one as a candidate who has never served and two days later be a minister is mind-boggling," said White.

In addition, White found that the average length of ministers' careers in cabinet has dropped from 9.6 years in the forties to 3.9 years in the nineties. The average time spent in an individ-

ual portfolio has also dropped from 5.2 years to two years. This decline is due to voters who are "turning governments out more than they used to," said White. As a result, provincial cabinet ministers do not hold their positions long enough to form worthy portfolios.

Interestingly, cabinet ministers do not get paid very well. Responsible for all the province-related decisions, ministers are paid well under \$100,000 a year. They decide on such things as the removal of OAC and creation the Megacity. Cabinet ministers are being asked "to run a multi-million dollar department, which is a lot to ask," said White.

Improving the legislative experience of provincial cabinet ministers is a complicated matter; "it is not anything you can dictate," White said. He also suggested that there be "a recognition on everybody's part that it's important to serve in opposition." The Premier ultimately determines who gets into cabinet and, therefore, should also consider the importance of serving



Professor Graham White

in opposition. The opposition is a fundamental aspect in the political system and "has to be taken seriously," said White. Unfortunately, the majority of cabinet ministers have had no previous experience in opposition and, therefore, "cannot possibly understand what it's like to be on the other side," added White.

Paramount to pay



C'mon big money!

Community Living Mississauga is looking for students to design a poster for their "Community on Campus" programme. The winning entry can win a cash prize of \$100.

For more information, call 275-4039 ext. 509, or visit 3141E in the South Building.

Upcoming seminars

Varsity Blues agreement reached

Paramount Pictures and the University of Toronto came to an agreement over the title *Varsity Blues* from the movie bearing the same name.

The name Varsity Blues, which carries trademarks in Canada, will still be used by Paramount, but the video and forthcoming book will carry a disclaimer stating that the movie is fictional and in no way based on the intercollegiate Varsity Blues football team.

Paramount has also agreed to make a monetary contribution to the university which will establish eight new awards for outstanding athletes in need of financial assistance.

Dr. Robert Gimello, a professor at the University of Arizona and Harvard University, will give a lecture, "Mother and Father to All Buddhas": Mahayana/Mantrayana Cult of Manjusri in Late Tang," on Friday, March 19 at 11 a.m. in Room 262, North Building.

For more information, call Julie Waters at 828-3725.

Judy Fong Bates, a well known writer, storyteller and teacher, will recount her personal journey to "find a voice." The lecture is sponsored by the Women and Gender Studies Programme at UTM and will take place on March 12 in Room 262, North Building.

Contact Giuliana Katz at 828-3727 to make reservations for the free event.

Volunteers honoured

BY MARCO SERRA

UTM honoured 250 students' volunteer contributions to the College and surrounding community at the second annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. Ten "Outstanding Volunteers" were also recognized for their commitments.

Susan Guenther, one of the year's 10 outstanding volunteers spoke to the crowd. The third-year Psychology and Exceptionality of Human Experiences student said that mentoring is an "incredible experience" that benefits the volunteer and the recipient of the volunteers' aid. "I love to volunteer. There will never be a time when I stop volunteering," said Guenther.

UTM's top administrators had kind words for UTM's volunteer population. Principal McNutt described volunteers as "those who give their time and effort willingly and with a glad heart, to help those who are at a disadvantage in our society." Ulli Krull, Dean of Science, said that "it is so important for people like myself to see people doing what they love to do. It is a breath of fresh air." Dean of Social Sciences, Cecil Houston, said that the 250 volunteers recognized at the event make up approximately five per cent of UTM's student population. He described this as "a remarkable record."

Many students attended the ceremony, which was organized by Student Services and Teresa Jose of the AccessAbility Centre's special projects department and was hosted in the Meeting Place. One student, Vesna Radinovic, a second-year Commerce major, said that while she is thankful for the recognition, volunteerism isn't simply a resume builder. "I am committed to helping people, not to getting a certificate," said Radinovic.

EAC

ECSU Advisory Committee addresses the concerns of students and attempts to improve communication between ECSU and UTM Students

Your Representatives are:

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1. Approval of Agenda
2. Executive Reports
 - President
 - VP Admin
 - VP Finance
3. Director's Reports
 - College Affairs
 - Advertising
 - Special Projects
 - Services Coordinator
 - Clubs Administrator
4. Other Business

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Psychiatrist gives exam-stressed students advice

O'Riordan gives students tips about how to cope with exam stress

BY COLLIN WIANCKO

Doctor John O'Riordan, a psychiatrist with UTM's health services since 1987, calmed the nerves of exam-anxious students during a workshop at the Academic Skills Centre.

According to O'Riordan, "it's how you frame your anxiety. Everyone gets nervous when exams approach. It's a normal response." The problem for people arises, said O'Riordan, when they

think of this arousal as negative. He suggested that this arousal makes us highly concentrated and greatly helps people study and write exams.

What can students do to relieve this anxiety? "Prepare by not doing anything," suggested O'Riordan. "Relax. Take a break."

O'Riordan said that cramming won't help students conquer exam stress. "When writing an exam, we use our long-term memory," said O'Riordan, adding that studying late the night before isn't going to do anything for you, except make you tired the next day. O'Riordan prescribed a good night's sleep and a calm demeanor for panic-stricken students.

Many people, O'Riordan said,

look at an exam and immediately panic when the answers don't come to them right away. "Don't worry" comforted O'Riordan. "Read through the test, front to

"Everyone gets nervous when exams approach. It's a normal response."

—Dr. John O'Riordan

back. We use our long-term memory, so it's not going to come to us right away."

O'Riordan emphasized that students need to do the work throughout the year. O'Riordan said that the best way to study for an exam is to attend class. O'Riordan calls

classes a "free study period." Students are actually preparing themselves for exams by attending classes.

O'Riordan also suggested that students study with their full concentration. Students need to "put everything into each study session."

O'Riordan also prescribes that students have fun and not study all the time. O'Riordan recommended that students prepare for the kind of questions asked on the exam—students with multiple-choice exams should practice multiple-choice questions, for example.

O'Riordan also said that rituals can help relieve exam anxiety. "If it makes you feel more comfort-

able, bring your favourite pen."

Most importantly, O'Riordan said that students should make sure that what they're studying is something they like, because if it isn't, they won't want to do well.

O'Riordan said that some students suffer from panic attacks. Although they aren't common, these attacks can be serious and debilitating. O'Riordan said that these biological reactions can be treated through therapy or medication. O'Riordan said that students who suffer from panic attacks should seek help from a doctor.

Students interested in learning more about normal or abnormal anxiety should visit Health Services or one of Erindale's counselors.

STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

ELECTIONS

MARCH 23 & 24, 1999 10AM TO 6PM (EST)

REFERENDUM QUESTIONS APPEARING ON THE BALLOT

ST. GEORGE ONLY:

"Are you in favour of an increase of 75 cents in the fee paid by all full-time undergraduate students on the St. George campus to the Students' Administrative Council (refundable through SAC during the Fall SAC fee refund period) to fund the work and activities organized by the Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered of the University of Toronto (LGBTout, a recognized campus group)?"

"Are you in favour of an increase of \$1.00 (refundable during the fall SAC fee refund period) in the fee paid by full-time undergraduate students on the St. George campus to the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) to fund the student-directed work and activities of the Ontario Public Research Group (OPIRG), which acts as a resource centre for students and promotes volunteer initiatives in research, education and action on environmental, social justice and human rights issues? OPIRG is a recognized campus group at the University of Toronto."

If such a fee is established, are you in favour of an annual cost of living increases in the OPIRG portion of the SAC fee of up to the Ontario December-over-December Consumer Price Index of the previous year (a year-over-year change in consumer prices measured by Statistics Canada) or 3%, whichever is lower?"

SCARBOROUGH ONLY:

"Are you in favour of reducing the designated portion of the Students' Administrative Council fee for "radio" paid by full-time undergraduate students at the University of Toronto at Scarborough from \$5.00 to \$1.00 and the establishment of a new fee for Scarborough Campus Community Radio Inc. of \$4.00 to be paid by all full-time undergraduate students registered at the University of Toronto Scarborough beginning in Fall of 1999?"

MISSISSAUGA ONLY:

"Currently, SAC collects \$1.00 for the UTM Women's Centre and the sex education centre is not funded. Are you in support of an opt-outable fee of \$4.00 for full-time undergraduate students at the University of Toronto at Mississauga which would fund the establishment of a sexual education centre at UTM?"

TRI-CAMPUS:

"In light of the cuts in public funding, increases in tuition, skyrocketing student debt and the deregulation of tuition in the professional faculties, would you support using all democratic means necessary to protect and preserve a post secondary education system which is accessible to all?"

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- DENTISTRY
- EARTH SCIENCES AUDITORIUM
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- ENGINEERING CAFETERIA
- HART HOUSE
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- KOFFLER CENTRE
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- MED SCI LOBBY
- MUSIC
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- OISE: 252 BLOOR ST.
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- SMC: BRENNAN
- TRINITY: BUTTERY
- UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: JCR
- VICTORIA: NORTHROP FRYE
- WOODSWORTH

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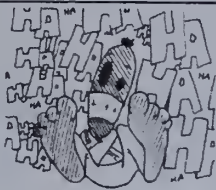
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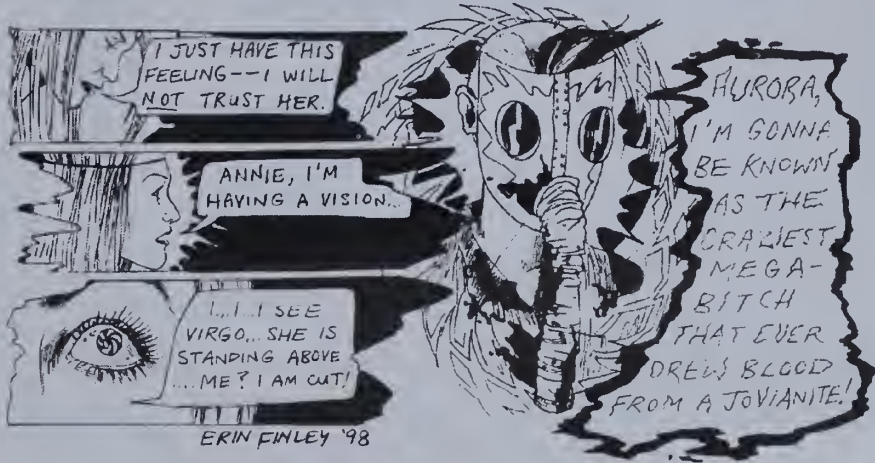
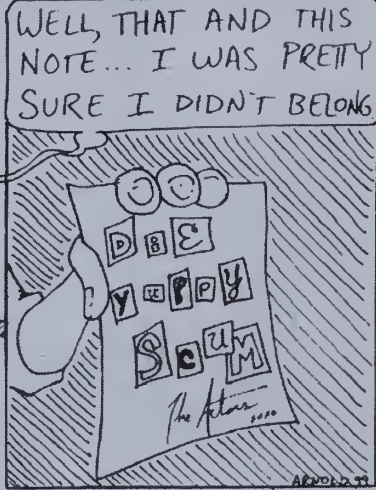
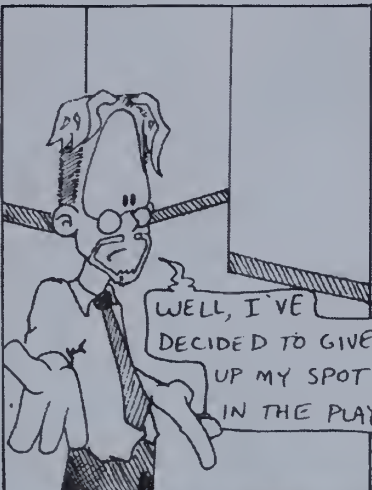


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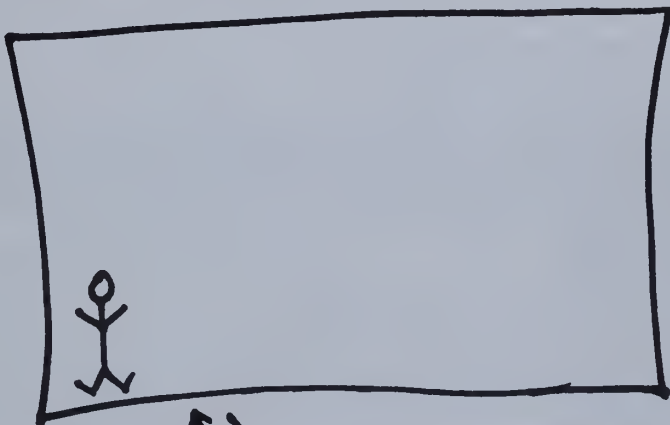
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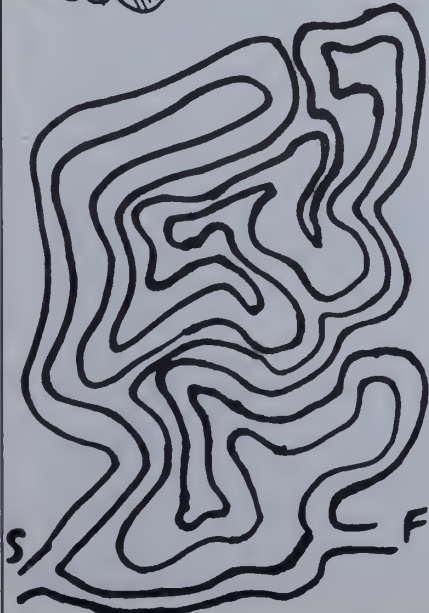


WHERE'S WALLY?



(HINT: ↑)

MAZE, GET FROM "S" TO "F" FAST...



A PICTURE TO COLOUR

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 21 CIRCULATION 5000 MARCH 8, 1999

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Phone: (905) 828-5260, Fax: (905) 828-5402, Advertising: (905) 828-5379

E-mail: medium@canada.com

Editor-in-chief • Duncan Koerber

News Editor • Robert Price Arts & Entertainment Editor • Richie Mehta

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Free election advice

EDITORIAL

And they're off!

Like a horse race, the election campaign period has begun. Some nominees, lame and unfit for office, will never even leave the gate, while some will just limp across the finish line. These nominees' problems serve as lessons for all involved. Here's some advice for students who are campaigning and want to maximize the potential of the campaign period:

A) Build a political platform. Think for a minute; what annoys you about Erindale? After you've answered that question, provide a solution. That's a plank for your platform. Ensure that your ideas are realistic, and your position allows you the power or mandate to solve the problem. ECSU directors, for example, can't stop tuition increases (although they can lend their voices to the chorus of opposition to tuition increases and funding cuts). Don't say you will do something outlandish—someone (*The Medium*) may hold you to your words later. State your philosophies on your ads. For example, say: "If you vote for me, I will vote against any fee increases next term to help limit the costs of your education." If you win, the voters have given you the mandate to vote against all fees. Why is this important? Often student politicians face a dilemma: do elected representatives have the right to do anything they want in office, or should they seek student opinion in referendum whenever possible? State your philosophies, because if you win, you can carry out your mandate, confident you are doing what students want.

B) Review the performance of the student who currently holds the position you want. Talk with them about the position's requirements.

C) Drop out now if you are unsure about your desire or ability. Run if you really want the position and feel you can make a difference.

D) Understand that even a comprehensive, well-constructed platform may have no effect on your chances. Most races are reduced to popularity contests. But it never hurts to win the popularity vote as well as the votes of the students who weigh the issues.

E) Campaign in residence. Knock on doors. It's time consuming work, but a personal connection with the voters helps. 700+ eligible voters live within a short distance. As well, talk with students in the Meeting Place or the North Cafeteria.

G) Speak about pertinent examples from this year. Cite an event or decision made this year and explain how you would have dealt with the problem.

If you win, we have this advice for you:

A) Don't get close with administration. Naive students often get swept away by the attention they receive from the school. By the time they realize they've been co-opted, it's too late. We've seen students eventually realize that they should have been tough negotiators in the first place. There's nothing wrong with being a pain in the admin's ass. We don't all have to like each other. We're here for a short time, so we should influence the campus for our interests. One qualification, however: a protest at every meeting is useless; but a very strong, pro-student attitude is important. Students have little control anymore, so their reps should be selfish, take everything they can get, and give up nothing.

B) Use *The Medium*. We need stories every week. If you plan something other than pub nights or food giveaways, call us. Savvy students use the press to influence administrators and affect change in the students' favour.

C) Develop your shit detector over the summer holidays. Analyze everything you hear, and scrutinize any decisions people make in your "best interest."

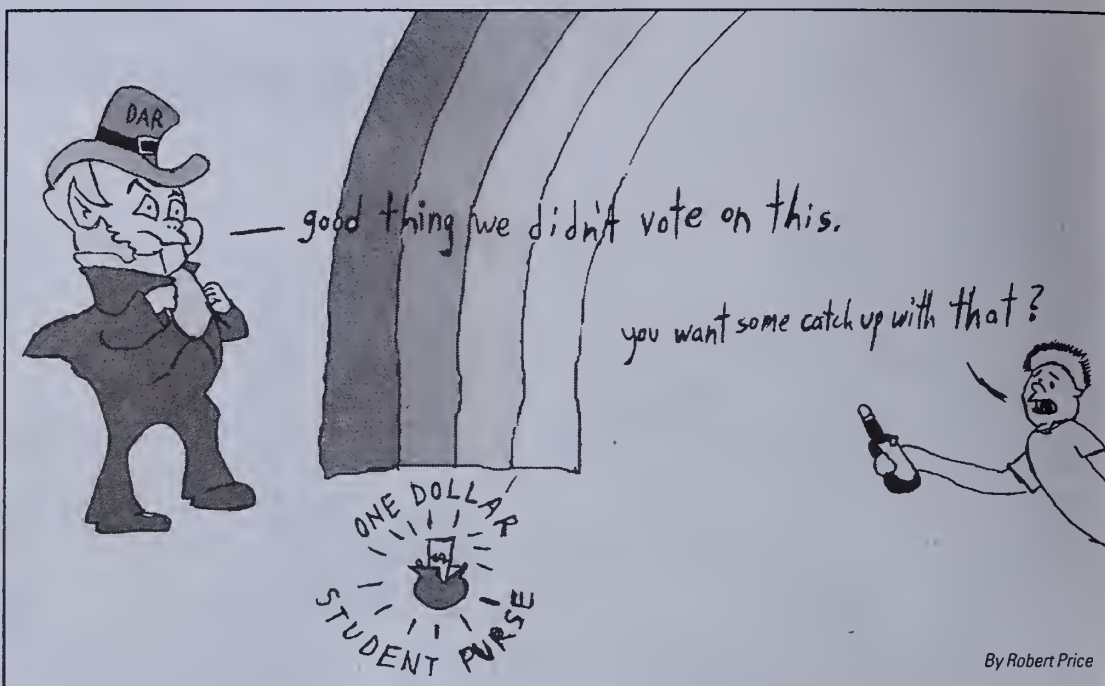
D) Understand the rules of your organization and the bylaws of the University. Study how to get things changed and then change them.

We've watched student politicians try to get things done. The biggest problems we see are lack of thought and research, and a tendency to back down when challenged by administration. If we could say only one thing, it would be this: be skeptical about the word "partnership" with the students and the school.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. **The Medium's** mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network.

Paul Rinkoff is the KING OF THE WORLD. 28 applicants? They must have seen what little work they do and what high pay they get. You need a real signal before you need real journalists. Something's happen with athletics, and we think we're getting screwed, but nobody will say anything to us. It's not our fault if students get fucked. We tried. Advice is a verb, advice is a noun. If you want to complain, learn to write.

EDITORIAL



By Robert Price

Tax cuts outrageous

BY EDNA TOTH

While university students rush around looking for jobs so they can earn enough to stay in school, Ontario's Tory government is handing out cash to the rich.

A recent news release from Ontario NDP leader Howard Hampton says that the Tories much-vaunted tax cuts (made possible by cutting government investment in universities, health care, and other things all of us need) will benefit only those with individual taxable incomes of \$80,000 a year or more.

In Ontario, only six per cent of taxpayers fall into the \$80,000+ category—want to bet that almost none of that six per cent are university students? Want to bet that only a few are even university profs?

Hampton and the NDP say that only people who are already well off will benefit from the so-called tax cut.

Check out the salaries of top executives in 1997, as reported by *The Globe and Mail*:

(Assume they took full advantage of

stock option reporting rules and bonuses, because they probably did.)

PROJECTED 1999 TAX CUT

Frank Stronach \$926,466
Magna International Inc.

Gerald Schwartz \$667,316
Onex Corp.

John Hunkin \$369,116
CIBC World Markets

Bradley Wechsler \$291,016
Imax Corp.

Galen Weston \$273,266
George Weston Ltd.

Michael Brown \$269,716
Thomson Corp.

Matthew Barrett \$161,796
Bank of Montreal

What does the NDP plan to do about this problem? The NDP says it will take back the tax cut from the top six per cent of Ontarians and reinvest the resulting \$1.5 billion into programmes like health and education, programmes that all of us need.

Letter to the Editor

To the editor,

I have been following the Radio Erindale saga over the last couple of years, and I cannot fathom why Radio Erindale will not be going to a referendum. The 'station' has only a few speakers, and I went to the cable frequency that they claim to be on and heard nothing. At school, the speakers are always too loud and annoying.

As for Andrea Civichino's letter, I'm not sure where she shops, but 'best before date' is the expiry date. On the package of milk I have in my fridge there is a 'best before date,' which obviously means that it will spoil after that date.

If Radio Erindale management is so confident, then why don't they go to a referendum so that students can decide if it's worth spending thousands of dollars a year keeping open a station you can't hear.

If the people at Radio Erindale think that a few speakers constitute a radio station, then they should see the radio station I have in my room—it's even got surround sound.

S. Wong

Make Octoberfest national holiday

BY DAVE MACDOUGALL

It became clear, after my eyes regained focus, my motor functions returned, and my hangover slowly departed that Octoberfest is the greatest holiday event of the year.

Octoberfest reigns supreme over all other holidays—even Guy Fawkes Day—as the undisputed champion of the world. The proof lies in an examination of our two top heavyweight holidays, Christmas and Octoberfest. It's a battle of monumental proportions reminiscent of Superman vs. Captain America.

The two monumental holidays can be observed on an equal playing field because they both occur only once a year. To begin, Christmas holds the title "The Spirit of the Season." This is misleading, because Christmas does not have a monopoly on winter, and in reality, Christmas only lasts for a twenty-four hour period. Octoberfest, "King of Holidays," is a week-long Bavarian bonanza with both opening and closing ceremonies. It's like celebrating St. Patrick's Day seven days in a row at the Olympics, although the only gold medal goes to Miss Octoberfest.

Duration: Octoberfest—1 Christmas—0.

The University gives students and staff vacation time at the end of December to celebrate Christmas. Octoberfest has no such vacation privileges or benefits. This circumstance, however, displays the greatness of the holiday, where hard-working citizens sacrifice schoolwork and jobs to participate. The commitment to

celebration and acceptance of personal loss by the mighty Shlagerdogz of Octoberfest is dedication unknown to fans of December 25.

Dedication: Octoberfest—2 Christmas—0.

In the GTA, mid-afternoon NFL Thanksgiving football games and the Santa Claus Parade signal the oncoming of Christmas. Parades unite communities with a common experience and tidings of joy.

The Octoberfest experience is not adverse to this concept, and Kitchener/Waterloo welcomes Octoberfest with a festive parade, as well as the awe-inspiring traditional keg tapping. Simply put, Christmas has no kegs.

Opening Day: Octoberfest—3

Christmas—0.

For many, the symbol of Christmas and the spirit of giving is jolly old St.

Nick. Mr. Claus, a bright, pudgy and happy ol' gent, travels the world delivering toys to all the good girls and boys. The real meaning of Christmas can be found for those who search for it, but to most people Christmas means profits, materialism, and consumer over-consumption.

On the other hand, Hans is the symbol of Octoberfest. He's a jolly, orange, plump mascot with no larger-than-life meaning or deep symbolism. He reflects the true meaning of Octoberfest: a simple celebration with friends, the taste of Jagermeister, and the awesome power wielded by giant pretzels. All too often Christmas is about buying the right present and false tidings of joy. Octoberfest is about raising steins with friends and cheering "I'm Prosit!"

Symbolism: Octoberfest—4 Christmas—0.

All holiday events have their own characteristics. Christmas has the music of Bing Crosby and Perry Como and carolers out on a cold winter night bringing warmth to people's hearts. However, nothing warms up the body and spirit like the festive umph of polka king Walter Ostanek. After feeling the sheer exhilaration of the chicken dance, and hearing a few bold rounds of, "Ziggy Zaggy, Ziggy Zaggy!, Oi! Oi! Oi!" it's surprising that all Ontarians don't lift a yard of beer and cut a move on the dance floor every October. The atmosphere created by Octoberfest music, song and dance rivals and surpasses that of any holiday.

Music: Octoberfest—5 Christmas—0.

With the theme song to Hogan's Heroes, a pair of free wheeling lederhosen, and a schnitzel covered sausage in hand, it always seems that the warm afterglow of Octoberfest will never leave. Unfortunately, it is eight more months until Octoberfest arrives.

Remember that Octoberfest is not just one night of the year. The Hans Haus in K/W is open all year round for your Octoberfest needs (17 Benton St. • Kitchener (519) 574-4267).

Until then, pressure local politicians (MP Carolyn Parrish, ParriC@parl.gc.ca or MPP Rob Sampson, rob.sampson.mpp@mississauga.com) to have Octoberfest declared an official holiday well in advance, so that everyone can prepare for the big day's celebrations.

Generation X knows how to put on a show



The show featured funky outfits like the one shown above.

photo/Sijie Xu

While attempting to balance one's studies with a social life, few students have the time or the motivation to participate in extra-curricular activities. However, Erindale students Cindy Gomez and Nauman Choudhry had the time, and the vision to create a fashion show and dance party reflecting various cultures.

On Friday Gomez and Choudhry, otherwise known as Generation X, presented XXX-treme Xtacy, a fashion show and dance party held inside Mississauga's Trillium Banquet Hall. The show gave people a sneak peek at the spring lines.

Sabrina Macias from TLN's Salsa Plus led the show, while Double A and Kamran Zak deejayed for both the show and the dance which followed.

XXX-treme Xtacy featured clothing from Urban Behaviour, Club Monaco, if I, Costa Blanca, Tuxedo Junction, Coliseum, Bomba, Infiniti, Expressions, Stitches, and Fatima Qureshi.

"The show is very cultural," said Gomez, about the event she slaved over for a month in order to make a success. "I

thought about the idea while sitting in Management 100," she said. Although a fine idea, XXX-treme Xtacy could have been better organized. The show started two hours late, and the crowd was smaller than expected. Fortunately, there was loud music and an open bar to keep the audience amused during the wait.

Highlights of the show included funky pieces by local designer Bomba, who used bright colours, lots of silver, tight silhouettes and slinky knits.

The good-looking models and the funky clothes kept the audience pleased. We can't wait for the summer lines.



Blinding shine and slinky knits were a big part of the show.

photo/Sijie Xu



photo/Sijie Xu

Local fashion designer Bomba struts her stuff on the catwalk.

OPIRG makes a difference at U of T

Ontario Public Interest Research Group hard at work

BY GRACE SUBRATA

The Ontario Public Interest Research Group has been busy this year. Involved with the University of Toronto community for seventeen years, OPIRG has operated through funds from graduate and part-time undergraduate stu-

dents on the St. George campus.

Fully run by students and volunteers, OPIRG's mandate is to act as a resource centre for students, and to support volunteer initiation on human rights, social justice and environmental issues. Elena Lonero, coordinator of OPIRG, is the organization's only staff member.

Any student can get involved with any of OPIRG's action groups. There's an environmental action committee, Students Against Sweatshops, a food committee, a first nation solidarity group, the Corporate-Free Campus project, a committee for global solidarity, a newsletter, CIUT radio show, and a

web site.

At the beginning of every academic year, OPIRG holds orientation sessions for its various action groups. Students coming in the middle of the year can still get involved by attending any of the action groups' meetings.

In addition to the volunteering OPIRG members participate in, there are five student co-op placements available each year where

students can do research on public issues for credit. This includes such programs as the Innis College Environmental Studies project.

OPIRG's long-term plans include branching out to all University of Toronto campuses in order to represent a larger community.

OPIRG will be having a referendum this spring that will ask full-time undergraduates to pay an annual fee to their organization.

Top 10 things I'd rather do than cram for term-tests

BY DAVE MACDOUGALL

With term-tests, essays, and final exams coming up, there are several things we students would rather be doing than studying.

Here's a list of the top ten.

10. Get dressed up in blood and chum and be used as bait by oceanographers studying sharks. *Here sharkie, sharkie, shark*

9. Turn my head and cough.

8. Tease and taunt Mike Tyson, that high-pitched, gap-toothed, washed-up super wuss-wuss-wuss-orama. *Oh, please don't bite my ear off. I'm, soooo scared Big bad Mike Tyson's gonna*

7. Get drunk, real-good-dirty-saucy-I'm-a-puddle-pour-me-in-a-wheelbarrow-and-slosh-me-

home-incoherent-dyslexic-cowboy drunk.

6. Sober up, repent, and find God. (I think He's hiding out with all the Leprechauns and the hoogeyman in Fiji.)

5. Lecture drunken English soccer hooligans on the importance of pacifism and tolerance in today's expanding global economic environment.

4. Watch grass grow ('What kind of grass,' you ask?)

3. Take a phonics course in ebionics.

2. Make sweet love to the two hosts of *Two Fat Ladies* (Friday nights 8 p.m. on the food channel).

1. Listen to Korn. No, wait. That's going too far. I'll study.

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DRAW DATE (2 CD's): March 11

Caribbean Connection celebrates black history

BY TANYA P. INGLETON

February is not only known for groundhogs and Valentine's day; it's also recognized as black history month. Even though black history should be acknowledged year-round, it is gratifying that people of all origins are interested in learning about the heritage of black people. For this reason the U of T club, Caribbean Connection, organized a couple of events inaugurating the black history festivities.



On February 11, Judge Stanley G. Grizzle, the first black court judge, came to Erindale to discuss his career.

The articulate, comical, and stunning Judge Grizzle enlightened his small but attentive audience about the injustices that he and other African-Canadians faced in the early and middle part of the century. Although it appears that the United States is the only North American country where blacks were mistreated, victims also existed in Canada.

Despite the inequalities in employment for blacks, porters formed the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The first trade union ever arranged, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was created for black men. The Porters' success played a large role in the Canadian civilization movement, and led to the improvement of the country's 'exclusionary' immigration policies.

In his book, *My Name is Not George*, Judge Stanley G. Grizzle articulates his challenges as a black man in Canada. Grizzle does not regret coming to Canada, insisting, "I've never thought of my experience as negative, but it made me stronger."

On February 25, Caribbean Connection held several presentations in the Meeting Place. Tal Manku, the Caribbean Connection's social director, provided the audience with a programme of events to follow.

The Voices of Faith, a choir orchestrated by Tamique Erskine, sang the soulful "Black National Anthem." All choir members had strong singing voices, and the harmony was outstanding.

Deesha Davis, Tara Diaz, and Tal Manku all

shared in the recital of the short story called "The Race." These three women presented each of their designated parts in clear and enthusiastic expressions that effectively grabbed the attention of the audience. Next, Mandy Vaz gracefully sang "For You I Will."

Of course, the event included the recognition of one of America's best novelists and poets of our time: Maya Angelou. Angelou may be African-American, but her work is appreciated throughout the world. The poem "Still I Rise," was effectively recited.



In addition, Deesha Davis, Nigel Hoyt, and again, Tal Manku presented an informative timeline of the achievements of some prominent black

figures in the world.

One of the most dynamic traditions within the African culture is 'stepping.' As Manku informed spectators, "Stepping is a weaponry of the rich, drumming and spiritual singing that is a huge part of the African culture." Many Caribbean Connection members joined for a step-dancing routine. The name of the group was "The Unity Team." Also, the choreography of the group was superb and well in-sync.

The Caribbean Connection's social assistant, Karen Jensen, fluently presented some information about the legendary, late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Jensen's segment was not only well delivered, but educational also.

The Voices of Faith later performed "Wade in the Water" and "Take My Hand Precious Lord." Sisters Rachel and Sharon Luke added soulful verve to the choir, with powerful and leading voices throughout both songs. Throughout "Lean on Me," Nigel Hoyt's strong, deep voice led the choir to another well-harmonized performance.

Last, but not least, Hennessy, a group of musicians from St. Francis of Xavier Catholic High School, sang "Open My Eyes, Lord" in smooth harmony.

Finally, the Caribbean Connection did a splendid job of engaging the audience with such worthwhile performances. The events proved to be both educational and memorable.

Black history on the internet

BY CHINEDU UKABAM

America's Black History by World African Network

<http://www.wanonline.com/blackhistory/>

Black History Month 1999 by CNN Interactive

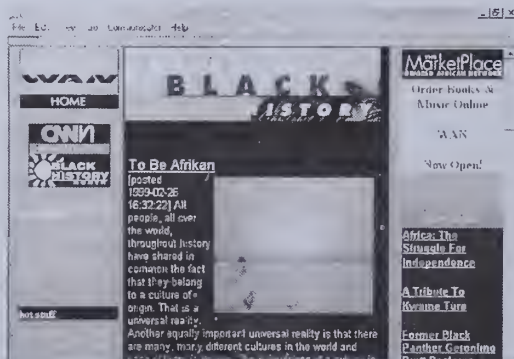
<http://cnn.com/SPECIALS/1999/blackhistory/>

Black Facts Online!

<http://www.blackfacts.com/>

Pan African Film Festival

<http://www.paff.org/>



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ELECTIONS

THE MEDIUM

Positions available: Editor-in-chief, News Editor, Arts & Entertainment Editor, Sports Editor, Features Editor, Photography Editor, Composite Editor.

The application period is now open for positions on the Editorial Board of the 26th volume of *The Medium* for the 1999-2000 school year. Any interested Erindale student—regardless of experience with us—should pick up an application package at *The Medium* office (North Building, room C111). Deadline for application: **Monday March 15 at noon.**

A Candidates' Forum will be held **Thursday March 18 at noon** in the *The Medium's* office. All applicants must attend to make a short speech about their abilities and plans for their section, and answer questions from staff. The election will be held **Thursday March 25 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

Positions available: 5 Board of Directors positions.

The nomination period is now open for positions on Medium II Publications Board of Directors. Medium II Publications oversees *The Medium's* legal and financial affairs. Any full-time Erindale student may run. Pick up a nomination form at *The Medium* office, C111 North Building. Deadline for application: **Monday March 15 at noon.** The election will be held **Thursday April 1 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sewell gets serious about art and life

Crossing that barrier from students to professors, I've found Richard Sewell in particular to be one of the most insightful, expressive, glowing, and intelligent pros around. Professor Sewell teaches first year painting, drawing, and print-making at Sheridan College in the Art & Art History programme. His approach to art, rooted in his life experience and philosophies, is among the most unique and educated ideas about art.

ARTT/ATAACK

BY RICHIE MEHTA

Students first see him as somewhat of an enigma. Entering his class, one finds it difficult to understand what the hell he's talking about, and wonder why they simply can't sit down and draw or paint something they like. His ideas don't concern the production of a physical piece of art, as much as developing one's sense of self, and understanding what one has to say. Huh?

Let's go to the source himself. Professor Sewell's theories revolve around cognition and evolutionary

growth. "Art is about talking to yourself, and whatever medium one uses is the filter. It takes your whole life to ask, or answer, the right questions." This is the lead-in to a well of ideas concerning the definition of art. Profound as it sounds, the truth of it stems partly from the belief that the fine line between art and entertainment has been crossed, and the distinction is harder to make. "People have to listen to their brains, even if they don't understand them. They have to create the language that their brains are handing them, and interpret it. That is a very personal experience, and it may take their entire lives to understand it. We only get a few real ideas in our lifetime, and it's the



Art & Art History professor Richard Sewell's philosophical views on art are sometimes misinterpreted by his students.

photo/Richie Mehta

sum of our experiences that create those ideas. Individual art pieces are part of the research, not the end product, on understanding what you're trying to tell yourself, and others. Our brains only hand us our own ideas, not someone else's. That's entertainment."

Many see this way of thinking as a waste of time, partly because it involves a radically new way of seeing things, virtually outside of the limitations of the practical world, and partly because they can't see why the final piece of art is no more important than the stages it took to reach it. Sewell sees the material world as separate from this personal one we interpret. "I feel strongly that how we think has been ignored. When you do listen to your brain, it's stupid, scary, and wasteful, at

first. But all of the experiences and thoughts we have become the sum of you, and it's an artist's job to figure out what those thoughts actually are. Eventually, you'll come up with something that has never been done; something as original as you."

Teaching frosh for a number of years, he has a lot of advice to offer them. "You have to realize that the experiences are accumulative. Don't isolate one from the other because no one experience is a waste of time. In terms of being worried about a product, my view is that making things is an illusion. Some say that you are the work; the thing that is invented is you, and there's a lot of truth in that. All of the work you do, including the research used to arrive at a product, is a part of your ideas, and no one image or piece is less important. Besides that, being a frosh is no big deal, it's only for a year. It's like bootcamp for a year. Generally, the problem is that people think true art must be done for commercial living. Students have to see that their lives must be maintained, and their art must be maintained. It's not school's job to weed the two, but to show you how complicated you are. You have to respect that, and use it as a platform for life." Sewell's theories may not agree with everyone, but he offers an educated view on how one should approach their art; and ultimately, themselves. And advice like that is invaluable.

Good, bad, and somewhat ugly

The *Shallow Grave* and *Trainspotting* wave a few years back took westerners by storm, and rightly so with sharp dialogue, often violent plot twists, and the knockout team of Danny Boyle and Ewan McGregor. That said, the new British import *Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels*, is aiming for the same effect. Does it succeed? Not really.

FILM/REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA



Eddy (Nick Moran), Soap (Dexter Fletcher), and Bacon (Jason Statham) enjoy a drink in the new Brit crime-flick *Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels*.

and did so well in North America and Britain because nobody had seen anything like them. *Barrels* takes a different approach in that it virtually acknowledges hip-crime films. In doing so, it becomes them, and loses its own identity. There are innovations, such as the jump-cuts and freeze-frames of the opening scene, as well as the guerrilla-style of filming used in the scene when the chaps get tanked, but they alone cannot sustain the picture. One gets tired of the recycled ideas in *Barrels*, including seeing criminals argue over the stupidest little things, and the obligatory blood bath that solves everything. Sure, everything is written with precision, and attention is paid to detail, but the sense of entering uncharted film territory is not there.

The performances are energetic and convincing one gets the sense that these guys are the real thing. (In reality, many of the actors grew up in the comparable areas and interacted with equally "shady" characters.) In particular, Nick Moran as Eddy, and Sting as his father, both stand out. However, the material simply doesn't make for a truly engaging film, and one wishes for more narrative unpredictability. One could do a lot worse, but also a lot better, than *Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels*.

UTM from students eyes

UTM, as seen through the eyes of more than twenty student volunteers, was honoured on the walls of Blackwood Gallery from March 1 to 5.

FINE/ART/REVIEW

BY HEATHER SAUNDERS

Natalie Doonan, who is in her third year in the Art and Art History programme, coordinated volunteers to take photographs of the campus with disposable cameras; she then had certain photographs enlarged. The Quality Service for Students (QSS) funded the project, which was inspired by a similar endeavor at the University of South Carolina.

Doonan says that the most valuable aspect of the project, entitled "Perspectives," is that art students and non-art students alike participated. Art and Art History students formed the jury that sifted through over 500 photographs. Considering that many of the volunteers were amateurs, the results are incredible. For instance, David Fortino's "Deer Crossing Here" features a warning sign for deer crossing illuminated at night against a sunset. "It makes you stop and think about where you are...the mundane suddenly becomes artistic, noteworthy, and frameable," said photographer Eric Rose, regarding his own experience.

Unexpectedly, the photographs come at a good time. For instance, James

perspectives cont'd on page 11

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Sheridan



Theatre Erindale spreads their sickness

Do you enjoy enemas? Are you always sick because you love attention? Or more important, do you have at least three hours to spend on one night between now and March 13 to take in something with a little culture?

THEATRE/REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

If your answer to any of these questions is 'yes,' then be sure to check out Theatre Erindale's latest offering, Moliere's *The Hypochondriac*, the final mainstage show of the 1998-1999 season. The ticket price is worth the sight of the props, costuming, and wonderful performances.

This three-hundred-year-old play pivots around Argan, a rich hypochondriac. This deluded man is so obsessed with the thought of sickness and dying that he chooses to fill his remaining time on earth with enemas, medication, and a little bit of matchmaking for his eldest daughter, Angelique. Unfortunately for Angelique, such matchmaking is unnecessary as she has recently fallen madly in love with the passionate Cleante. For the rest of the play, the characters attempt to match Angelique with the

man she loves, and make Argan see the errors of his ways through a series of play-acting vignettes. This tension between form and content makes *The Hypochondriac* very interesting and watchable in spite of its lengthiness. (And one really has to wonder why Moliere found it so very amusing to write himself into his own plays.)

The Hypochondriac centres beautifully on the character of Argan, played with charming finesse by Robin Archer, whose sense of comic timing is wonderful. Sarah Robinson, as his winsome and lovestruck daughter, Angelique, plays her role with a genuine sweetness. Margo Gonzalez is perfectly mouthy with a delightful stage presence as Argan's servant, Toinette, and John Shea gives an energetic and hilarious performance as Cleante, Angelique's young lover. But the audience's favourite performance would have to be that of Kory Bertrand's suitor to Angelique, Thomas Diaforius. He performs with such energy and conviction that one feels compelled to vomit as he saunters around the stage. (And don't worry, the fact that he might make you feel like vomiting is a good thing.)

Beautiful costumes, props, set, and inventive staging aid all the perfor-



Yes, this is what it looks like: Robin Archer, Adam Bailey, and Daniel Krolik find themselves in a compromising position in Theatre Erindale's *The Hypochondriac*.

mances. The play features a few too many 'bawdy' sex jokes, which are arguably gratuitous, but considering that the players are performing to a university audience (of whom nearly all enjoy a good sex joke), this directorial choice is acceptable. The choreography and live music liven up the older material, as do

some interesting choices of anachronisms (like the *Young and the Restless* theme that subtly surfaces onto the play's score at one point), but there was still something slightly flat about the production, some independent factor that is difficult to identify. Perhaps, it is the fact that Moliere's play, in addition

to being over 300 years old, is too didactic as a narrative, or perhaps some of the directorial choices made the production a little bit too one-note. Nonetheless, one leaves Theatre Erindale's *The Hypochondriac* feeling pleasantly enriched.

Kudelka's kiss of death

The National Ballet of Canada has just finished its fourth of six yearly presentations at the Hummingbird Centre in Toronto. This presentation, *The Stravinsky Programme*, was a collection of

BALLET/REVIEW

BY JAMES HAYWARD

three modern ballet pieces: "Septet," "Apollo," and "The Fairy's Kiss."

The first piece, "Septet," was graced with performances by Rex Harrington, Greta Hodgkinson, Jaimie Tapper, and Johan Persson to name but a few. Even with this cast of great dancers, the piece itself was less than stellar. Contrary to the title, there were eight—not seven—dancers involved. The most disappointing aspect of this ballet was its lack of physical demands. Not once were the dancers ever challenged; nor were they asked to represent their abilities fairly. It was a very 'pretty' piece that could have been performed equally well by less qualified dancers.

"Apollo," a choreographically ingenious piece on George Balanchine's part, sported amazing performances by Aleksandar Antonijevic, Jaime Tapper, Jennifer Fournier and Brenda Little. The story outlined the birth of Apollo and the three muses. Music and movement flowed smoothly to produce another notch in The National Ballet's performance belt. This piece sits in the company of such ballets as "Manon," "Giselle," "Onegin," and even "Swan Lake."

In appreciation of his ability to dazzle the audience with excellence, Antonijevic received a standing ovation.

The unfortunate defeat of the evening came on the wings of James Kudelka's presentation of "The Fairy's Kiss." Kudelka, the current artistic director for The National Ballet, hands us a ballet that is noticeably influenced by Balanchine. Even with this obvious idolization, Kudelka is unable to create a good piece of art.

The opening and closing sequences, with the Ice Maiden, Young Man and Servants, were exquisite. The middle segment gave the impression of a "good-ole-country-hoe-down," surprising most and sending many home. The sound of fidgeting and boredom was louder than Stravinsky's melodies.

If this is the best we can expect from Kudelka, I fear for the future of The National Ballet. This man is "re-working" the choreography for the up-and-coming performance of "Swan Lake?" Could this be The National Ballet of Canada's swan song? I, for one, seriously hope not.

Loveable criminals

Fun Lovin' Criminals
100% Colombian
(Virgin)

A new-wave-funk sound has recently emerged, combining the roots of jazz, hip hop, and rock into one neat package. **Fun Lovin' Criminals'** release of 100% Colombian coincides with the dawn of this new genre. Think of the gritty techno-jazz music of *Pulp Fiction* toned down a few notches for a soothing, airy feel.

The **Fun Lovin' Criminals** execute a fresh sound effectively with a mixture of drum machines and raunchy guitars, topped with a selection of distant saxophone and big band jazz sounds. Not only is the music good, it complements the three boys' low-key rapping throughout the disc. But, there's more. Once you tear yourself away from the looped and sampled drum beats, you realize that the **Criminals** are really conveying social messages which range from the perils of drug dealing to urban life in general.

In all, the addictive beats and meaningful lyrics make for a great album. 100% Colombian is one great predecessor to the many that will hopefully follow.

- Stephanie Faye

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First Perspectives show a great success



Mark Overton, Natalie Doonan, and two nose-grinding patrons enjoy the Perspectives Art show courtesy of UTM students.

photo/Sijie Xu

continued from page 9

Hayward's "Walksafer in a Winter Wonderland," with its turbulent sky, reminds one of the horrendous snowstorm that arrived with the new year. Other timely photographs depict the scaffolding for the Student Centre and the sixth phase of residence. Dawn Lim captures the latter subject in a wonderful photograph, "Construction of Student Centre Through Hole in Wall," that is both abstract and dramatic. The number of construction photographs emphasize the campus's transitional state; the anticipation of future buildings also contributes to UTM's current identity.

Student life is represented well in "Perspectives." Students are seen relaxing in Ryan Redmond's "Weary Rest of the Sensitive Artist" and Michael Thomas' "Studying is the Brief Period Between Naps." They are also seen in a more

responsible state, as in Robert Price's "Laundry Day," which features a student with a box of Tide. It's surprising that no volunteers captured for posterity an image of students lined up on cold Thursday nights to enter the Blind Duck, but, otherwise, "Perspectives" portrays student life quite sufficiently.

Fortunately, "Perspectives" does not only show the student experience. Robyn Meades photographed children at the day-care centre, and Michael Bradley photographed a member of the residence staff at work.

Whether the project will continue in the future is dependent on QSS's funding. The same setting would depend on Blackwood Gallery's approval. The new curator, Barbara Fischer, said that this show has been an excellent opportunity for her to become acquainted with UTM students and their work.

Mythical music for the ages

CD/REVIEWS

Mythos
Mythos
(Virgin)

Mythos, the Vancouver-based new-age band, first achieved success with the release of *Introspection*. Their second release, self-titled, is sort of an instrumental version of Enya, or Equinox, with all of the light and provocative feelings that characterize those artists.

Consisting of two members, Bob D'Eith (piano) and Paul Schmidt (guitar) (see interview on page 11), **Mythos** has blended classical, African tribal, Oriental, and Middle Eastern music in a refreshing way to create what is one of the year's best new-age recordings.

a film, albeit a strange one, but a provocative one nonetheless.

Highlights of the CD include "Brazil," which acts as an appropriate introduction, but still doesn't give away the diversity of the rest of the tracks. "November," which begins with steady female vocals that return throughout, has an almost heavenly feel to it, and is sure to force a smile. "Planinata," follows in the same style vocally, and evokes the same feelings. "The Odyssey" has an almost traditional Italian feel, with a male choir in the background, and traditional guitars providing the harmony. However, this style gives way to a more intense beat, with the voices taking over. The high point of the CD is "The Nile." With its Middle Eastern vocals and guitar, the track is the most thought provoking and settling one on the CD. The drum beat, reflective of Egyptian and Indian style, is accented by the gentle female vocals, and gives one the feeling of



The band claims that it is music that they're trying to create: simple, wonderful, haunting music that evokes timelessness. They have succeeded. It doesn't bombard, but passes through, the senses. Even though it is calm and melancholic, it reveals such a vast array of moods. Due to the music's atmospheric nature, the album could almost act as a soundtrack to

tradition and the beauty surrounding its foreign qualities.

Mythos is still a relatively new group, and has yet to conquer the local Canadian market. But if you have any desire to gently soothe your senses, get the CD, before everyone else catches on and beats you to it.

-Richie Mehta

Vancouver musician reveals his myths

BY RICHIE MEHTA

Some describe them as a cross between **Delerium**, **Deep Forest**, and **Enigma**. Others describe them as the latest in new age music, destined for greatness, with seats already reserved for them in heaven. However one looks at them, **Mythos**, the Vancouver-based new age group, is certainly moving up in the world, and their new self-titled CD is proof.

I recently had a chance to talk with Paul Schmidt, one of two band members of **Mythos** (the other being Bob D'Eith). This down-to-earth gentleman spoke of his experiences in creating the band, and some of his influences in creating such a unique and settling blend of music.

RM: You cite the film industry as being one of your major influences in forming **Mythos**. How so?

PS: We eventually want to do film scores, anything sort of dark and moody, like *Dark City*. That's the end goal.

RM: What's your favourite movie, by the way?

PS: It's a film I saw last night, *Barfly*, with Mickey Rourke. It was about a guy who was a total bum, but a genius writer. He thought he had to suffer for his art.

RM: Like a tortured soul artist?

PS: Yes.

RM: You wanted a change when you formed **Mythos**, and you essentially left the rock world. Where did that desire for change come from?

PS: It came primarily from Bob's (D'Eith) dissatisfaction and disillusionment with the rock world. He was tired of so many rock bands (he was in one himself, called Rhymes with Orange), and he saw the whole thing as a big ego battle. He just wanted to leave it.

RM: What do you think of the Grammys, and mainstream music in general?

PS: I have no problem with the music; it's the competition that's discouraging. Looking at the music that gets awards, like Celine Dion, makes me sick, because they get everything. I'm not

much into radio-played music. Most of the stuff is ridiculous, and I ask why are people eating it up so much?

RM: It's almost as if people don't define what's number one, they're told it.

PS: Especially younger kids, who are pointed towards popular music, and

the financial benefits have only come into play in the last year or so.

RM: Your music is very Romantic. Are you die-hard romantics?

PS: Bob and I both love the Romantic period. Composers like Brahms, as opposed to Bach or Mozart, who were earlier, are our influences.



photo/Virgin music

The mythical duo: Paul Schmidt and Bob D'Eith have worked their way up the charts.

don't get to decide what *sounds* good to them.

RM: Yes.

PS: But I mean, I would love to win something like a Grammy, simply because it means a lot of success in terms of sales. That would be the payoff.

RM: What inspired you to get into music?

PS: We were educated in classical music, and instead of a rock band, we wanted to get into something where we would have more freedom—where we could use the training.

RM: Do you have any advice for up-and-coming musicians?

PS: Have fun and don't do it for money. We didn't succeed originally. When I came out of school, I began to teach privately and at community centres. I still teach, because I love working with kids, and I have a good time with them. But

RM: How did you guys come together?

PS: Family friends.

RM: Really?

PS: Yes.

RM: What differences do you see in terms of the Canadian and the American market?

PS: Strangely, we're more popular in the States. Locally, in B.C., people know our stuff, but the rest of the country doesn't. Hopefully, we'll get feedback from them soon. The exposure is starting with campus sources, and spreading to the mainstream.

RM: What about scheduling? How do you manage your time now that you have more commitments and obligations?

PS: It's great; we do public relations in the morning, and have the rest of the day to record, and I still teach privately.

RM: Thank you for your time, Paul.

PS: No problem.

Dichotic

Collapse Into Despair
(Discorporate Music)

Collapse Into Despair is death metal. No bells and whistles about it. This album is crushing, brutal death metal. Vocals are growled to the point of incomprehensibility, the drums are pounded at a relentless pace, the guitars are crushing and heavily distorted, and the bass assaults with waves of sheer intensity.



Welcome to the world of **Dichotic**. This Halifax quintet has been gathering fans at all of their shows, and this debut album reveals why. The second track on the album, "God Complex," displays all that is good about death metal: intensity beyond any other form of music, beautifully crafted and classically influenced guitar solos, and a wonderfully rich growl from frontman Raland Kintley.

This album shows that Canadian death metal is far from dead. The northern hyperblast is still alive and well—it has merely changed hands.

The album can be purchased on line at <http://is2.dal.ca/~rfguy/dichotic>

-Chris Wagner

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Fireworks anyone? How about Jay-Z or Gangsta Boo?

CD/REVIEWS

Alpha
Pepper
(EMI)

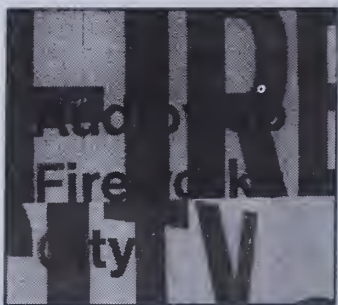
Yet another one of those pesky discs from the house of Massive Attack, **Alpha** blend trip-hop with ambient and funk to produce a sound that resembles the tone of their labelmates yet still carves their own niche. The funky rhymes are infectious, and just so damned cool!

The beats are reminiscent in sound quality of old **Prodigy** (back in their pure techno days, when they still didn't know what guitar was, and Keith Flint was still just a dancer), even down to some of the "speed" sounds lacing their beats. Of note is that *Pepper* is a remix/b-side album. However, each song stands on its own, so that it is not necessary to know the original as well as the listener's desire to pop in the original, which happens altogether too often with remixes these days.

Although it is a short album, each track is solid from start to finish, with kudos going to "Sometime Later [Tim Simenon Mix]" for great production,

and "With [Underdog Remix]" for its great fusion of trippy sounds and hip-hop funk and vocals. *Pepper* is a great collection by a relatively new band. For some newcomers, a b-sides collection this early in their careers would seem gratuitous, but from **Alpha**, it seems just right—if only because it means there's more quality music for fans to latch onto.

—Scott Arnold



AudioWeb
Firework City
(Polygram)

AudioWeb is yet another in a line of genre-fucking bands that seems to be getting longer by the minute. Following in the footsteps of Blackgrape and Sugar Ray,

AudioWeb uses alt-rock instrumentation, hip hop beats and scratches, and dancehall ragga lyrics to construct an average product. Nothing is new here. Whether you've heard Blackgrape's "It's great when you're straight" or Sugar Ray's latest release, you've heard AudioWeb's style before. Lead vocalist Maxi's voice often falters in the falsetto moments ("Sentiments for a Reason"). The production, though it has its moments, often takes a back seat to the inferior vocals. For example, the smooth, rich textures at the beginning of "Soul on Fire" disappear altogether as soon as the vocals kick in. The scratches used on "Policeman Skank" and "Test the Theory" seem added on, perhaps yet another case of a band using the latest gimmick to make themselves sound unique. Much the same can be said of the dancehall/ragga flow of Martin Merchant. Why is it that too many of these bands use an individual with inferior flow? Perhaps AudioWeb should've taken a page from Sugar Ray's book and used a tested voice such as Supercat. In case you haven't noticed the underlying theme in this review it's don't waste your money on this CD. Pick up some early Blackgrape or Sugar Ray instead.

—Shevan Bastianpillai

Gangsta Boo
Enquiring Minds
(Sony)

I listened to **Gangsta Boo's** debut—*Enquiring Minds*—three times, hoping to get a grip on what exactly she was trying to say. I still don't have a clue.

Originating from the tough **Three Six Mafia** crew, Boo has immediately made a name for herself in the patriarchal world of hip-hop with a hard, slick flow capable of chilling you to the bone as on "Kill, Kill, Kill, Murder, Murder, Murder." She can also slip into 'Lady Boo' mode, romancing the heart in "I'll be the Other Woman." News of Boo's skillz has grown to the point that she is being wooed by Puff Daddy and Foxy Brown for guest appearances.



Without a doubt **Gangsta Boo** has lyrical talent. But here, however, is where I find myself divided; thus, I pose this question to you: Is it at all possible for a woman to find empowerment through an overzealous use of her own sexuality? The cover of "Enquiring Minds" depicts Boo, a beautiful black lady spreading the fabric she's wearing to reveal...well you get the picture.

With songs like "Suck a Little Dick," one would think that the name **Boo** certainly defines her character. However, on "Where Dem Dollas At," Boo says "You'd be amazed at these bitches having babies by Niggaz/ With no pots to piss in, or no money to give her/ What the fuck why you ho's wanna live that way/ I be screaming fo' some chedda every goddamn day," she is clearly attempting to redefine the feminine role in a contemporary social setting. But is this effective? After three listens, I'm still undecided.

—Shevan Bastianpillai

Jay-Z
Vol.2: Hard Knock Life
(Sony)



Jay-Z has satisfactorily compiled a CD that features his talents and gives a good insight into his world. Many see this CD as 1998's best rap album and that isn't far from the truth. He gets a bunch of his pals to help, including **Memphis Bleek**, **Da Ranjahz**, **Big Jaz**, **DMX**, **Too Short**, **Amil**, **Ja Rule**, **Foxy Brown**, **The Lox**, and **Jermaine Dupri**.

Jay-Z recorded some very catchy songs for this album that were high on the charts for extended periods of time. Those that have received the most notoriety were "Hard Knock Life," "Can I Get A," and "Money Ain't a Thang."

"Can I Get A" was part of the *Rush Hour* soundtrack; it is still on the charts. This catchy tune features **Amil** and **Ja Rule**. The CD version isn't edited, so the song is unlike the version played on the radio. The difference explains the album's parental discretion advisory label.

"Hard Knock Life" is best described as a description of everyday problems and life, in general. Sampling "It's the Hard Knock Life," performed by The Original Broadway Cast of *Annie*, this tune has a nice mix. However, it does get irritating when you hear it too much.

The album's other big song is "Money Ain't a Thang," featuring **Jermaine Dupri**. This catchy song is a bonus track on the compilation. I didn't like it the first time I heard it, but it grew on me to become my favourite on the album. Its good beat makes this song hard to get out of your head.

A solid album, *Vol.2 Hard Knock Life* is a good CD for rap and hip hop fans alike.

—Zuhair Fancy

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SPORTS

This Week in... Ball Hockey History

BY ZUHAIR FANCY

The existence of men's ball hockey at UTM is now nothing more than a memory due to the school's lockout of the players. To fill the resultant void, *The Medium's* sports department will relive some moments from past seasons. This week's walk down memory lane features games from the 1989, 1994, and 1995 seasons as playoff action was just beginning.

Punjab Horsemen versus Jimmy and the B's

Back in 1989, the Punjab Horsemen played Jimmy and the B's in the first round of the A Division playoffs. The Horsemen played well but ended up bowing out to the B's in two straight games.

In game one, the Horsemen took the early lead but the B's fought back. When the B's took foolish penalties, the Horsemen couldn't take advantage on the powerplay. When the Horsemen took some penalties, the B's took full advantage,

as Paulo Comacchi scored a pair to give his team a 4-2 win.

Game two was marred by penalties as five players were ejected in this exciting game. The Horsemen could not overcome the B's and ultimately lost 4-3. Asim Iqbal scored twice for the Horsemen, but the B's Paulo Comacchi matched that with two of his own and Rino Perruzzi notched the winner.

CCCP versus Deviled Eggs

In this 1994 matchup, CCCP went up against Deviled Eggs in a game in which refereeing made the difference as the Deviled Eggs won 4-3. The Russians had a big 3-0 lead but some bad calls against them in the final minutes allowed the Deviled Eggs to make a comeback.

Darayus Kanga scored the first two goals of the game and Umesh Dandiker added another to give CCCP a 3-0 lead. But with six minutes left in the game, Brett Eysers, Jon Wawrow, Mike Vidas and Jeff Floyd all scored for the Deviled



This picture is from last year's game between Fury and the Hawks which ended in a 1-1 tie.

file photo

Eggs to give their team the win.

Who's Next versus Fury

Back in 1995, the first-round matchup between Who's Next? and Fury was a classic game that saw the birth of the Fury legend. Who's Next? won the total goal series 4-3.

Fury squeaked through their wildcard game, matching the top-ranked Who's Next squad as the teams battled to a scoreless draw in game one. The closing

minute of the game saw Who's Next? have a goal disallowed when the referee determined that the ball was knocked in by a high stick from Motan Amin.

Game two was wild as the teams opened up a bit. Amin scored a hat trick while Sanj Bhalla had a goal and two assists while anchoring the Who's Next? defense. Fury got markers from Boris Tasevski, Bal Khabra, and Chris Dias. The game went down to the wire but Who's Next? was too talented for Fury.

Men's division I volleyball report: a season of change

BY COACH JASON MONJES

The men's division I volleyball team struggled this season for many reasons. As defending champions, the team did not play as a cohesive unit until the later season. The exhibition games that were cancelled against the NCAA division III teams took a toll on UTM. The games could have helped UTM, the youngest team in the league, build itself. However, the team members were bigger, which was a plus for the team. The players performed well; unfortunately, experience proved to stand out more than skills.

The team finished fifth out of the original ten teams with a record of 6-6. Scarborough, New College, Skule, and MBA finished ahead of UTM respectively. The team bowed out to MBA in the quarterfinals, losing 15-6, and 15-4. UTM did not play loosely, which affected their game dramatically. The referee did not help the cause, missing calls that a monkey could have made.

Captain Paul Stanczak led the team and showed tremendous tenacity when the team appeared disoriented. Stanczak hit undiggable balls throughout the season and had a great presence at the net. Rob Eidukaitis proved that he was perhaps the best setter in the league and in UTM's volleyball history. He led UTM throughout the season in digs and service aces, was third in team blocks, and ran the UTM offence. Although sometimes too intense, Eidukaitis always had good intentions for

the team. John Michael Erra played his final year at UTM, but not before playing what may have been his best game of the season in the playoffs. Erra's play was reminiscent of his play two years ago when he led the team in kills and was

UTM's MVP. He will be missed. Aaron Sang, Andrew Kim and Dave Dolliver were three returning players who had difficulty attending games due to academic obligations. They were missed throughout most of the season. Andrew Sopkoac was

a welcome addition to the team, as it desperately needed new middle hitters. Sopkoac played well, hitting balls over blocks, despite his lack of playing experience at a high level; however, his passing and serving skills progressed during the season. Brian Yashchyn and Ian Hazlewood were also first-year players who showed much potential; they will only get better with time. Yashchyn improved his defense tremendously, digging up balls that were out of his range earlier on in the season. Hazlewood progressed throughout the season, becoming a starter in the latter season as his hitting and passing improved drastically; he was MVP for the second half of the season.

UTM added two new players halfway through the season. Bill Dietz, a former volleyball starter two years ago, and Tristan Robinson hustled and displayed a lot of skills that will continue to improve. Dietz, who missed the first part of the season due to basketball commitments, came out blocking every ball, as well as showing intensity on the court that really helped the team positively. Robinson played out a variety of positions during the year, from outside to right-side hitter—he has a lot of potential and heart.

UTM's volleyball future is promising, as most of the players will return next year. The team now has a nucleus, with Eidukaitis, Hazlewood, Dietz, and Stanczak leading the team. Most of these

Paralyzers versus All Stars

The dominating Paralyzers defeated the All Stars convincingly in a matchup that finished with an 11-3 score. Many were unsure how the injury to goalie Carol Seymour would affect the team in its bid for this year's championship. All doubts were cast aside as Emma Wilmot scored four times, Erin Sneek scored a hat trick and had three assists, and Erin Laporte and Lindsey Telfer each had two goals.

The All Stars put up a brave fight as they scored three in this match, two by Keira Stockdale, and one by Tara Nicholls, to try and get to the next round. This was a tough-fought game despite the final score, as many battles were fought along the boards for control of this game. Great playmaking was the reason for the lopsided victory; quite a few pretty passes were seen shortly before a goal ensued.

Impressive goaltending by Kristen McMillan saved most of the shots in this game. As well, great work by Erin Laporte and Cheryl Reid helped result in the win—they filled in for Seymour. With this win, the Paralyzers will meet Flaming Moe's in the semi-finals to see who will advance to the championship. Come out for some great action on Tuesday and Thursday for this matchup.

To all league players,

The All-Star Game and the skills competition will be held on Friday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The list of those on the team is on the board next to the athletics office. The skills competition is open to everyone who wishes to participate. The sign-up sheet is in the athletics office.

Volleyball continued on page 15

Division I men's basketball advances in playoffs

BY STEVEN MANCHUR

UTM men's division I basketball team opened up the playoffs with an impressive 71-57 victory over Phys Ed. UTM slowly pulled away led by strong defensive play and smart transition play.

UTM led the entire first half, but by no more than six points at any one time. Each time that it seemed like UTM was going to pull away and put the game out of reach, the stubborn Phys Ed team wouldn't give up—they placed a run of their own to keep close. Phys Ed was led by former Varsity player Dan Selkrik, who knocked down threes from all over the floor. UTM held a very slim 38-34 halftime lead.

The second half saw UTM increase the defensive pressure against Selkrik, forcing him to drive, rather than allow him the open shot. The game went back and forth for the first ten minutes of the second half, with both teams trading baskets. Up 48-44, UTM went on a 9-0 run over the next three minutes, highlighted

by an impressive behind-the-back move by Kevin Rawana which had the crowd in awe. Once Phys Ed got down by double digits, they started forcing shots, and UTM capitalized, building up a 22-point lead, and holding on for the 14-point win.

Lance Stroud and Jason Gloger led UTM in scoring; both had 16 points. Phys Ed just couldn't handle Gloger's inside presence—he adds a new dimension that UTM hasn't had in years. Geoff Richardson added 12 points, and Rawana chipped in nine.

UTM now has to wait to find out their next opponent, which will be the winner of the Woodsworth and Scarborough.

UTM will be looking for revenge against Woodsworth, who squeaked out a 78-72 win against UTM earlier this year. If UTM plays Scarborough, it will be all-out war. UTM split two games with Scarborough this year, losing 55-51 in the first game of the year, and then defeating Scarborough 87-85 in overtime in the last game of the regular season.

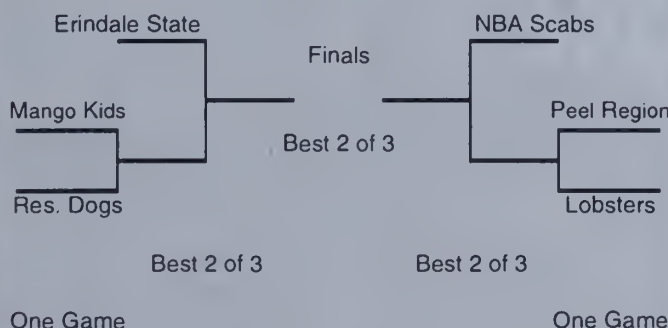
Intramural basketball playoffs—Erindale State and NBA Scabs early favourites



Erindale State is built around quick guards like Ali Naushahi.

photo/Sijie Xu

1999 Intramural basketball playoff brackets



Note: Please check Athletics board for game times as well as any changes in playoff format.



Geoff Richardson leads the NBA Scabs and is a force to be reckoned with.

photo/Sijie Xu

Ash did the best he could

There is a lot of skepticism being tossed at Gord Ash for the recent Roger Clemens trade. Critics say that Ash lost out since he didn't get a superstar like Clemens in return, he didn't land a "no miss" prospect, and he really didn't improve the Blue Jays very much. The fact is that Gord Ash has to be credited for how he's handled the Clemens deal in a no-win situation.

BETWEEN THE LINES

BY MUSTAFA KHAN

When stuck with Clemens' situation, a general manager has difficulty trading the guy. Every team knew that Clemens wanted out and that the Jays were forced to trade him. On top of that, given Clemens' eagerness to up his contract to the insane Kevin Brown status (\$15 million per year), why would a team give up a lot if they had to treat Clemens like a free agent anyways? That's why Clemens fell out of favour with the Houston Astros, the Astros would have probably given up Derek Bell and the like for Clemens if he didn't want to renegotiate his contract. But Houston would have to give up a major part of their team for Clemens, and then, on top of that, sign him for Kevin Brown kind of money. Common sense dictates that Houston did the right thing by offering the Jays nothing more than mild prospects. The California Angels also pulled out of the Clemens sweepstakes for

the same reason; having just signed Mo Vaughn, they would have loved Clemens at his present salary of \$8 million a year, but not at the proposed \$15-20 million per year contract that Clemens wants.

Bluntly put, Clemens handcuffed the Jays. His contract demands only left the big market teams such as New York and Cleveland in the sweepstakes, and even the Red Sox came calling. In the end, the trade offers were not that good. So Ash really took the best offer out there; if Ash could have gotten Rameriz from Cleveland or Bell from the Astros, he would have. But Ash had no choice; he had to trade Clemens before spring training started or else we might have had a WWF

Hardcore match between Clemens and Pat Hentgen. He didn't have the Mike

Smith option of waiting for an eternity before making the Potvin deal, although that deal was awfully good for the Leafs (see below).

If the trade is analyzed, the Jays did get some decent players in return. Relief pitcher Lloyd won't make a huge difference to the Jays, as he was a thrown in by the Yankees. The Jays got Homer Bush

and you have to love a guy named Homer, whether his last name is Simpson or not. He's not a Robbie Alomar but he's probably better and taller than Cora and Grebeck put together. And finally, with the Clemens-for-Wells deal, Ash basically traded an out-of-shape guy who pitches extremely well and lies on almost every occasion in Clemens, for an out-of-shape guy who pitches moderately well and drinks beer on almost every occasion in Wells. Once again, you have to love a guy like Wells.

So Ash really pulled off a decent deal. It's not what one would expect for a superstar like Clemens in return, but Ash had no choice. Ash took the best deal out there...period.

By the way, does anyone remember that when Clemens first signed with T.O., it was the Bostonians who warned us that Clemens was a money-grabbing, selfish, egotistical player? In retrospect, they were correct.

Aside: Now that Felix Potvin is out for the season and Berard looks like the second coming of Bobby Orr, who do you think won the trade?

Remember, it was my belief even before the deal was made, that Mike Smith knew what he was doing and that the Leafs wanted Berard and not Trevor Linden from the Islanders in return. I don't want to toot my own horn for making valid prophesies in *The Medium*, but I just did anyways.



Wells is more loveable than Clemens.

Foo hits game winner for Div I basketball

BY STEVEN MANCHUR

In what can only be described as the best basketball game in past three years for the men's Division I team, UTM defeated arch-rivals Scarborough College 87-85 in overtime. For veterans Lance Stroud, Bill Dietz, Kevin Rawana and Bryan Foo, the win was even more gratifying, since UTM had not defeated Scarborough in four years.

The game was nip and tuck right from the start, with both teams taking early leads just to watch the other team come back. Scarborough's quickness gave UTM trouble early, but UTM's strong passing game led to some easy baskets. UTM found itself down four points at halftime, but also in severe foul trouble with both Bryan Foo and Aman Dhillon having three fouls.

The second half saw Scarborough shooters build their lead, led by some outstanding three-point shooting. Down by ten, UTM was forced out of their zone defense and into an extended full court defense. The switch worked as Scarborough's offensive rhythm was nullified by tough man-to-man coverage. Huge baskets down the stretch by Stroud, Rawana and Dhillon saw UTM tie the game, taking possession of the ball with 15 seconds left in the game.

Unfortunately for UTM, the shot attempt failed and the game was sent to overtime.

The overtime session was much like the rest of the game, with Scarborough taking the lead, only to watch UTM come back and tie it. With Scarborough up two with just over a minute left in overtime, Geoff Richardson gave Lance Stroud a beautiful pass, and Stroud calmly tied the game. Scarborough went down the floor, but their big man was called for travelling, so UTM had possession of the ball with thirty seconds left. Bryan Foo took the game clock down to six seconds, dribbled in off a screen from Richardson, and hit a beautiful foul line jumper with 1.2 seconds left to give UTM the win.

UTM was led by a balanced attack with five players hitting double digits in points. Stroud led the team with 18 points, Richardson 16, Rawana 15, Dietz 14 and the hero Foo 11. Not to be forgotten is the outstanding efforts of Harold Samuel, Aman Dhillon and Bilal Khan, who all contributed significantly to the win. The team now heads into the playoffs on a real high, but they must realize that if they don't show up, they can be quickly knocked back down to Earth.

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Raptors inconsistent

At the end of the Raptors' final game last season, Toronto fans wasted absolutely no time in expressing their discontent about the team's overall woeful performance. A flood of boos reverberated throughout the SkyDome when Glen Grunwald humbly apologized for the Raptors' disastrous season.

BETWEEN THE LINES

BY KIRK SUKOORALI

This season, however, Grunwald promised a more competitive and consistent team. Prior to the NBA lockout, the team acquired veterans Kevin Willis and Charles Oakley to fill the centre and power forward positions. The Raptors selected Vince Carter in the NBA draft to be their rookie guard. This troika would provide leadership while bolstering the team's dismal offense and defense. In Carter, the Raptors get a talented player who may be their future franchise star. It is safe to make this assumption since the Raptors have not had a decent point guard since Damon Stoudamire. Last season, the Raptors were plagued by lacklustre performances from inexperienced and inconsistent point guards.

With Doug Christie, Alvin Williams, Dee Brown, Tracy McGrady, and John Wallace, this team has improved considerably in terms of scoring depth and defense. Following the first victory against the Celtics, it was evident that this season would not resemble those of the past. The Raptors' crisp passes, shots, and rebounds in that game seemed bound to continue.

However, since that match, the Raptors have performed unsatisfactorily. Against the Wizards, they were unable to maintain their lead, eventually succumbing to Washington by a single point. Following the loss, the Raptors put together a humiliating losing streak that saw them self-destruct to the Bucks, the Heat, the Knicks, and again to the Wizards. In each of those games, the opposition capitalized on the Raptors' many misuses and inconsistent plays. Both Christie and Williams struggled to score in the second game between the Raptors and the Bucks.

Since their entry into the NBA, inconsistency has plagued the Raptors' ability to win games; clearly, a problem that this franchise has not solved even though the Raptors are a much better team this year. In the aforementioned games, they played intensely but lacked concentration and communication on the court. This was evident in their unsuccessful shot attempts and their many turnovers because of poor passing.

If the Raptors want to enjoy a victorious season and maintain fans' interest, they must clean up their game or else suffer humiliation in more of booing that was heard last season.

Sundin deserves more recognition

As we quickly approach the home stretch of this year's NHL campaign, all eyes are on players like Eric Lindros, Jaromir Jagr, and Paul Kariya, to see what these men can do for their respective teams and which awards each are chasing. One player who frequently goes unnoticed by fans and media outside the city of his team is Toronto's Mats Sundin.

BETWEEN THE LINES

BY ADAM GILES

The 6'4", 230-pound Swedish-born Sundin is one of the NHL's most underrated players, despite the solidly consistent numbers he consistently puts up. He has never won an NHL award, but that in no way accurately reflects how valuable he is to his team and to the game. Although his accomplishments are sometimes acknowledged outside of Toronto, he does not receive nearly as much recognition as he deserves.



He's been averaging roughly a point per game since the 1991-1992 season, his second year in the NHL, yet he somehow squeaks past comparisons with the game's other top players. He's only the twelfth player in the Maple Leafs' illustrious history to score over 40 goals (he potted 41 in 1996-1997). Sundin's best season was in 1992-1993 when he drilled 47 goals and 67 assists for 114 points—this was while playing for the struggling Quebec Nordiques (who drafted him first overall in 1989). He's the first-ever European born player to be selected number-one overall, and in the past decade, he's one of the few number-one picks to have really excelled in the NHL. Duds like Alexander Daigle and Roman Hamrlik are nowhere near Sundin's caliber, yet they both carry the 'first-overall draft pick' title. Sundin had an almost immediate impact on the Leafs as soon as he arrived from Quebec in the Wendel Clark trade of the shortened 1994-1995 season. Sundin, who is a natural centre, assumed a humble left-wing role alongside former captain Doug Gilmour and collected 47 points in 47 games. After Gilmour was traded, Sundin became the sixteenth captain in Maple Leaf history. There couldn't have been a more deserving player to hold this tremendous honour. Although he is soft-spoken and modest, his method of leadership is by example (and what an example at that). Not only does he produce impressive numbers and dazzle fans with great plays, he can be seen enjoying every game as with a huge grin of happiness whenever he's on the ice for a Leaf goal. This overt love for his job (a game he is paid to play) is very refreshing to see in a professional athlete at a time in which many are in it for the money. He epitomizes the kind of player we should root for since he shows a genuine interest in the game and is simply fun to watch. Off the ice, he is also involved in many community-oriented activities and charities. Sundin is the honorary captain of "Street Buds," the Leafs' ball hockey programme for youth in the area; he is involved in a charity in Sweden for hockey players with debilitating injuries.

Mats Sundin is a great role model for young hockey fans and an excellent entertainer for everyone else, yet, unjustly, he remains one of the league's most underrated players.

Volleyball changes

continued from page 13

players will rest before entering the beach season in a couple of months.

Recommendations for the team's improvement include better officiating from the downtown facilities and exhibition games against American teams. Even though the team struggled, it was a learning experience, one that will make the team better. The MVP for 1999 is Paul Stanczak, who provided leadership on and off the court.

Punchout—Left hook Zuhair Fancy



Punchout—Right hook Adam Giles



Is ECARA justified in forcing through an increase in their fee without going to a referendum?

Student voice silenced—ECARA unaccountable to students?

Once again, fees are getting jacked up. This time it's the athletics fee. ECARA's VP Finance, Abid Chaudry, said that the council is in "a negative cash-flow situation that resulted from compounding problems of previous councils." ECARA is going bankrupt because of self-mismanagement, yet students will pay the price. Why didn't last year's ECARA President, Mike Giordano, act upon any of the 'compounding' financial problems? Aren't our student reps supposed to look after our interests?

Chaudry is part of the group within ECARA that is forcing through a 'cost-of-living increase.' They are bypassing a student referendum, and instead asking QSS to allow an increase.

Other student organizations, like The Medium, ECSU, and SAC held cost-of-living referendums. Why can't athletics? Why didn't they have the presence of mind to ask for it before? Chaudry says that there isn't enough time for a referendum due to ECARA's "financial crisis." There is. Athletics Director Mary-

Ann Pilskalnietis says, "All student organizations have automatic inflationary increases. We're not trying to avoid anything here. Such proposals can go directly through to QSS." But athletics is trying to avoid something: student opinion. In the spring of 1996, former Athletics Director Peter Baxter and ECARA lost a referendum for funding of a new gym. Are they afraid they'll lose again?

Chaudry says that if ECARA goes under, "students [will] lose all influence over athletics." Although this is not in the students' best interest, forcing a fee increase eliminates the students' voice. Pilskalnietis stated that the cost-of-living increase was not enough. Does that mean next year they'll need another increase? The cost-of-living increase has yet to be determined. What formula are they using to determine the 'catchup'? All the meetings are behind closed doors, so how can students hold elected reps responsible?

In the fall, ECARA claimed that administration was usurping its power, eliminating student voices. What is ECARA doing now? They're bypassing student opinion.

Proposal not bad at all

It's easy to say that ECARA's proposal to have a 'cost of living' increase is yet another unfounded fees hike. However, you have to look at what's actually going on here in order to see that it is, in fact, a worthwhile plan. Given ECARA's dire financial situation the proposal's increase is not really an option, but a necessity to keep the Council alive. It is important to keep ECARA breathing to ensure that UTM Athletics remains under students' control. If we lose this luxury, who knows what changes may come with the University controlling all of this College's athletics. The students will lose all say in matters that they're supposed to benefit from. The University already controls and influences enough of our daily lives here at school. It's the student-run management of athletics that knows of the students' best interest. With this in mind, ECARA request for two or three dollars (and a small "catch-up" fee) from UTM students is not much. That's one Burger King whopper combo that students will have to do without for one school year. Now, if it's possible for every student to make this puny sacrifice, it is easily worth what we're getting in return. I hate to say it, but we're living in inflationary times and, essentially, that's what this fees increase represents. Realistically, fees everywhere are increasing, whether it be for parking or tuition. It's a fact of life; accept it. Especially, when the increase is peanuts for a reward worth much more than that.

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